



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BAROSSA COUNCIL

held on Tuesday 17 February 2026 commencing at 5:30pm
in the Council Chambers, 43-51 Tanunda Road, Nuriootpa.

MINUTES

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country by Mayor Bim Lange who declared the meeting open at 5:31pm.

1. ATTENDANCE RECORD

1.1 Members Present

Mayor Bim Lange, Crs John Angas, Don Barrett, David de Vries, Tony Hurn, Kathryn Schilling, Cathy Troup, Jess Greatwich, Jane Evans, Bruce Preece, Rick Lane and Heidi Thompson

Apologies

Nil

Not Present

Nil

Leave of Absence

Nil

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 Minutes of previous meetings – for confirmation:

MOVED Cr Preece

That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 27 January 2026 at 5:30pm, as circulated, be confirmed as true and correct records of the proceedings of those meetings.

SECONDED Cr Hurn

CARRIED 2022-26/909

2.2 Matters arising from previous minutes

2.2.1 CONCLUSION OF THE TOWN OF GAWLER BOUNDARY PROPOSAL - MINISTER SZAKACS CORRESPONDENCE **26/3904**

The Hon Szakacs MP Minister for Local Government has written to Mayor Lange confirming the amended boundary adjustment report concerning the Town of Gawler proposal. This brings a matter extending some 6 years to a conclusion as to the assessment and decision making.

The amended report and approval of the Minister is consistent with Council policy positions and advocacy on the matter namely that Kalbeeba and Concordia are part of the Barossa and remain in The Barossa Council and that the component of the Springwood development in Kalbeeba area should transfer to Gawler.

There will now be some minor administrative support required to affect the Springwood development land allotment transfer, however this will be minimal as it is only two parcels of land. One parcel is approximately 30 hectares in area the other 782.5 m² in area. It will have a very minor financial impact on rates totalling \$3,458.45 reduction from both properties (25-26 value) there will be no offsetting expense savings as the allotments receive no direct services.

SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

2.2.2 APPROVAL OF CONCORDIA INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEME - CORRESPONDENCE FROM MINISTER CHAMPION **26/15751**

The Concordia Basic Infrastructure Scheme was published 15 January 2026 following approval by Hon. Nick Champion MP. This is confirmed via correspondence to Mayor Lange as at [Attachment 1](#).

The Concordia Basic Infrastructure Scheme was developed to ensure critical infrastructure is planned, funded and delivered in step with development of the Concordia Growth Area. Effectively, the Scheme outlines the major trunk infrastructure for the site, namely roads, bridges, water and sewerage, and some stormwater management, for Phase 0 and Phase 1 of the development. The scheme details who will fund the infrastructure and when it will be delivered. The Scheme needs to be considered in line with the Concordia Code Amendment.

The phases nominated under the Scheme include:

- Phase 0: 600 allotments (2026-2029)
- Phase 1: 2000 allotments (2030-2036)
- Phase 2: Balance of allotments (2036-2057)

There remains significantly more work to plan for Phase 2 and onwards of the development. However, this scheme will give direction to the first 2,600 allotments of

development from approximately 2026 – 2036, pending rate of development and any further investment.

Council received a full report on the scheme at its meeting of 18 November and Council's submission was provided to the Minister as approved. A link to the report concerning the scheme engagement and outcomes is presented below. A link to the scheme is also presented below.

Summary Details

This final document is broadly consistent with the October 2025 draft versions for consultation. Most notable changes compared to the October 2025 draft versions for consultation that may be of interest are:

- Minor increase in charge per dwelling at \$45,409. Note this is a dwelling charge not an allotment charge. How the Infrastructure Scheme Coordinator (ISC) requires the applicants of land divisions to show which lots might have more than one dwelling on them is uncertain.
- 10% increase in charge per Net Developable Hectare, noting also the large increase in Net Developable Hectare from 15ha to 51.84ha.
- Most of the main collector roads (RD-06,7A,7B,7C,8,9,10,11,12) within Concordia are now "Charge on Land Projects", delivered as Work-in-Kind with 50% of costs funded by the scheme and 50% by the relevant developer.
- Developers/Town of Gawler to deliver the Barossa Valley Way upgrades RD-05a and RD-05b instead of the Department for Infrastructure and Transport. Note the concepts for these works appear to impact on any aspirations for future rail extension east of Concordia.
- Some areas of the Scheme such as concept designs for the various scheme works in Appendix F need to be reviewed by Council engineering and Development staff in greater technical detail.
- Procedure 3, Reviews & Variations, now requires that all variations are approved by the Minister, whereas previously it was just the ISC.
- There is now a dispute resolution process available for Procedure 3, Reviews & Variations. A dispute can firstly be escalated to the Department for Housing and Urban Development Chief Executive, and then the Minister.
- Land budgets within the scheme do not align with the land budgets discussed through the Social Infrastructure Deed negotiation process. At this stage, this has not created an issue and the quantum of land required by Council is still on the table.
- Note that tinkering is proposed for sewer in Phase 0. However, our understanding is that private wastewater solutions may be an option as per other developments in the North.

Significant items of concern to The Barossa Council are still likely to be:

- Timing/delivery and design of the Link Road bypass and North West Link Road.
- Timing/delivery of a Concordia railway station with park & ride, noting a reduced likelihood of any extension of the rail line beyond Concordia.
- Stormwater management to prevent erosion of existing watercourses due to the significant increase in post-development flows. There is also room for interpretation on existing stormwater contingencies within the Scheme which creates risks for both Council and Developers.

- Several existing roads seem to be proposed to be closed. Council will need to maintain vigilance and consider the value and timings associated with this in parallel with land division applications.
- Further consideration of Council position on the pursuit of private wastewater solutions by Developers, including potential uses of treated wastewater.
- Monitoring of connectivity between roads to avoid a Heysen Boulevard situation.
- Public transport (e.g. busways) to remain as an active advocacy focus.
- Governance (e.g. regular meetings) and relationship building with ISC and Developers to be a critical focus area.
- Connection to planned Social Infrastructure through the Social Infrastructure Deed and any potential changes to the Scheme that may impact delivery, noting scheme charges on sites is still under investigation.
- Further consideration of the landscaped buffer to ensure objective achieved within manageable parameters.

SUPPORTING REFERENCES

[Infrastructure Scheme](#)
[Final Scheme Report](#)

3. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

3.1 Petitions

Nil

3.2 Deputations/Visitors to the meeting

Nil

3.3 Notice of Motion

Nil

3.4 Questions with Notice

3.4.1 QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE – COUNCILLOR BARRETT - INSURANCE STATUS OF BRUCE EASTICK DAM **26/14298**

MOVED Cr Barrett

That Council receive and note the response and that the question and response be placed in the minutes.

SECONDED Cr Evans

CARRIED 2022-26/910

PURPOSE

To close out a question taken on notice at the last ordination meeting of Council 27 January 2026 pertaining to the insurance status of the Bruce Eastick dam.

QUESTION AND RESPONSE**Question**

Councillor Barrett sought clarification of the insurance status of the Bruce Eastick dam, which arise from the Gawler River Floodplain Management Authority (GRFMA) minutes tabled at the Council meeting of 27 January 2026.

Response

After enquiring with the GRFMA it is confirmed at present the Bruce Eastick dam is not insured and the authority is currently looking at the capacity to insure it, if it is even insurable and at what cost and policy conditions.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references

Nil

3.4.2 QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE – COUNCILLOR ANGAS - UTILISATION OF ANGAS RECREATION PARK SHOW HALL
26/15471

MOVED Cr Angas

That Council receive and note the response and that the question and response be placed in the minutes.

SECONDED Cr Evans

CARRIED 2022-26/911

PURPOSE

To close out a question taken on notice at the last ordinary meeting of Council, 27 January 2026, pertaining to the use of the Angas Recreation Park Show Hall.

QUESTION AND RESPONSE**Question**

Councillor Angas sought clarification regarding the utilisation of the Angas Recreational Show Hall and any users that have sought to use the asset that may be impacted by restricting future use.

Response

The only recent enquiries for use other than the two that have ongoing agreements being the show society and archery club have been limited.

The most recent enquiries for long-term use of that or a similar space has come from the Barossa Valley Youth Club (gymnastics) and the Barossa & Light District Table Tennis Club. The facility did not meet their needs.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references

Nil

4. MAYOR**4.1 Mayor's Report**

MOVED Cr Evans

That the Mayor's report be received.

SECONDED Cr Hurn

CARRIED 2022-26/912

5. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Nil

6. MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

- 6.1 Building Fire Safety Committee 2025 Annual Report
- 6.2 Barossa Assessment Panel 2025 Annual Report
- 6.3 Correspondence from Minister of Local Government - Local Government Elections Reform
- 6.4 Dog and Cat Management Board Annual Report 2024-2025
- 6.5 Northern and Yorke Local Government Association Submission to the Parliament of Australia Inquiry into Local Government Funding and Fiscal Sustainability
- 6.6 Development Applications Report - Quarter 4 - October to December 2025
- 6.7 Northern and Yorke Local Government Association State Election Priorities

7. DEBATE REPORTS

7.1 Office of the Mayor and CEO

7.1.1 CEO ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW 2026 26/1980

Pursuant to Section 120(1) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, Mr Martin McCarthy as Chief Executive Officer, disclosed a Conflict of Interest in the matter Item 7.1.1 – CEO Annual Performance Review 2026 as it relates to his employment.

Mr McCarthy left the meeting at 5.38pm

Cr Jess Greatwich entered the meeting at 5.39pm

MOVED Cr Hurn

That Council:

- (1) Appoints Mayor Lange, Deputy Mayor and Cr de Vries and Cr Angas to the Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Committee for the conduct of the 2026 process.
- (2) Endorse an appropriate remuneration to engage a Qualified Independent Member to be involved with the Committee utilising external expertise of a HR management consultancy.

SECONDED Cr Lane

CARRIED 2022-26/913

PURPOSE

The CEO Review Committee is responsible for matters that relate to the CEO's employment and performance. This report is for Council to appoint two Elected Member representatives to the Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Committee for the 2026 annual review.

To approve the allocation of budget to enable the Committee to conduct the annual review of the Chief Executive Officer's performance and remuneration as required in accordance with the Contract of Employment and the Section 102, *Local Government Act 1999*.

REPORT

Introduction

The *Local Government Act 1999*, along with the Chief Executive Officer's Contract of Employment requires that Council is responsible to review the performance, remuneration and management of the Chief Executive Officer.

Background

The previous three years, Council elected to undertake the review process engaging a relevant external agency to undertake the review, utilising external expertise of a HR management consultancy. It also included 1 Qualified Independent Member; (a

person who is to have appropriate qualifications or experience in human resource management), as required under Section 102, *Local Government Act 1999*.

Discussion

As part of the contract of employment with the CEO, the CEO Performance Review Committee is obliged to conduct the CEO's performance and remuneration reviews. As per Council resolution CO 2022-26/349, the Committee's Terms of Reference are presented to you as at Attachment 1.

The Committee's Terms of Reference is for the purpose of not only undertaking the CEO Performance Review but formalise the terms of the Committee's operation, and to determine the time and frequency of meetings, prepare and distribution agendas, reports and minutes to facility transparency and accountability of the process and to review and make recommendations to Council.

The Representatives appointed to the Committee are contained within in the Terms of Reference and outlined below:

4 MEMBERSHIP

4.1 Members of the Committee shall be appointed by Council and shall comprise of six (5) Members, unless otherwise agreed with the CEO, as follows:

4.3.1 Mayor;

4.3.2 Deputy Mayor;

4.3.3 Two (2) Elected Members; and

4.3.4 One (1) Qualified Independent Member; (a person who is:

- not an Elected Member or Employee of Council; and
- determined by Council to have appropriate qualifications or experience in human resource management)

At the finalisation of the Committee's review, they will provide Council with a full report of review outcomes, assess and make decisions. As Mayor, I may also provide a summary of the process and performance findings.

If more nominations are received than the number of positions to the Committee, a ballot will be conducted as per Council's Code of Practice for Meeting Procedures.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS7 Governance - Provision of governance advice and support in the discharge of legislative responsibilities for policy development, delegations and

- authorisations, internal review of Council decisions, delegations and authorisations, Native Title claims
- BS10 People and Culture - Support to Managers and employees across the full employee lifecycle, including attraction, recruitment and selection, induction and on-boarding, training and performance development, performance management and offboarding.

Legislative Requirements

Section 102, Local Government Act 1999.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. SERVICE DELIVERY

Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

Nil

2. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

Nil

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

Remuneration to engage a Qualified Independent Member to be involved with the Committee utilising external expertise of a HR management consultancy.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

The Committee is established for the purpose of reviewing and effectively managing the Chief Executive Officer's performance and conduct, reviewing and providing advice to Council on setting the remuneration and conditions of employment for the Chief Executive Officer; and performing the functions of a selection panel pursuant to Section 98(4) of the Local Government Act 1999.

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

This decision will ensure Council are meeting requirements under section 102A of the *Local Government Act 1999* ensuring a Chief Executive Officer – performance review is undertaken at least once in each year.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not required.

Mr McCarthy returned to the meeting at 5.40pm

7.1.2 MOUNT PLEASANT BUSINESS CASE FOR FOOTBALL SERVICE LEVELS AT TALUNGA PARK
26/15774

MOVED Cr Barrett

That Council having reviewed the business case as presented at Attachment 1:

- (1) Undertake consultation on its intended direction, including this business case before making any decisions especially in light of part 2 of these recommendations, noting the business case does not provide a basis to measure decisions made for reasons other than the evidence base provided and represented utilising understood measures for benefits.
- (2) Note the cost benefit analysis of the two possible options are below accepted standards for investment based on the identifiable cost and benefits.
- (3) Not agree to the request to program any activity in 2026 at Mount Pleasant Talunga Park to allow time for consultation and any revisions necessary to the masterplan and this business case and commencement of any subsequent work.
- (4) Offer the use of the Williamstown oval for 2026; it requires little investment to ensure it is available for 4 games days and training in accordance with the requirements of the Lease and Licensing Policy.
- (5) Offer the use of Barossa Park Lyndoch for the grand final 2026, depending on usage and impacts on our clubs with the requirements of the Lease and Licensing Policy.
- (6) Require financial investment from the club for the upgrades in proportion with other clubs in the Council area; including long-term investment through a

legally binding agreement should Council proceed with one of the Options in this business case, if Council proceeds with an upgrade option.

- (7) Undertake engagement with Adelaide Hills Council to ascertain their plans to support the club and determine any opportunities for collaboration or alternative options and outcomes.
- (8) That should an investment proceed in 2026 at Talunga Park to increase the levels of service for Australia Rules Football, that the option of two additional game weekends at Mount Pleasant be made available in 2027.

SECONDED Cr de Vries

CARRIED 2022-26/914

PURPOSE

To table for debate and discussion the requested business case for service levels at Talunga Park Mount Pleasant.

REPORT

The business case at [Attachment 1](#) addresses all the components of a Council report including the background, discussion, analysis, assumptions, disclaimers and summary as well as providing recommendations, data and information that underpins the business case recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Business Case 

Supporting references

Outlined in the business case

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Community Plan



Creating a safe and connected community where people have access to sustainable services and service levels and infrastructure they need and feel a sense of belonging.

Strategic Outcome

- We support and advocate for sound planning and community outcomes in the implementation of the Concordia development in alignment with Councils vision, mission and principles for this development.
- Our services and facilities are accessible.



Implementing economic development strategies to support future growth opportunities and a diversified and resilient economy showcasing the Barossa rural and regional character.

Strategic Outcome

- We look to maximize community economic return.



Our Places

Our places and spaces enhance the liveability, retain rural and regional character and diversity of our communities.

Strategic Outcome

- Our places are planned, managed, and sustainable.
- We plan for and deliver infrastructure to enhance our places.



Our Council

We strive to be a leader in regional Local Government and are committed to delivering effective, efficient, and valued services to the community.

Strategic Outcome

- We are financially sustainable and take a planned and long-term approach to investment.
- We have sound asset management services.

Corporate Plan

- CS3 Assets - Planning, construction, maintenance and operation of Council's assets (Transport, Bridges, Community Wastewater Management System, Community, Cultural, Recreation and Stormwater)
- CS4 Caravan Park - Management of caravan parks, including maintenance, enquiries and bookings
- CS6 Community - To help the prosperity and wellbeing of the community. Community grants programs. Support for community groups – networking, advice, input to The Big Project
- CS9 Customers - Providing a consistent customer experience through the provision of accurate and professional customer service
- CS10 Economic Development - Facilitating the economic well-being and quality of life of the local businesses and the community
- CS11 Events - Management of community development projects and events, including enquiries and logistics. Event management supporting a variety of internal service areas and community that support the delivery of successful, community focused events.
- CS12 Facility and Community Land - Management of buildings, maintenance and occupancy, including inspections and advice to enable safe, accessible, fit for purpose and well managed community facilities, office spaces and community land
- CS19 Social Inclusion - Advocate and work in collaboration with core service providers to ensure vulnerable people have increased access and inclusion.
- CS20 Tourism - Provision of a range of tourism services, including; managing the nationally accredited Barossa Visitor Centre, development and maintenance of tourism resources both digital and printed, customer service delivery encouraging longer stays, dispersal throughout the region, and maximising visitor yield and investment in our region, Tourism Business Support, capacity building, training, product development, marketing

- CS21 Volunteers - Support of community volunteering through provision of the Volunteer Resource Centre. Provision of volunteer opportunities and engagement of volunteers in Council programs
- BS3 Communications and Engagement - Management of media, social media, digital communications, branding and strategy, special projects, grants and research, corporate publications, community engagement and events.
- BS5 Enterprise Risk and Safety - The management of Council's Enterprise Risk profile including strategic and operational risk assessment, control and monitoring; internal control and audit; business continuity and disaster recovery planning; organisational emergency management; insurance portfolio management; and Work Health Safety system coordination
- BS6 Finance - Provision of financial and budgetary accounting services, treasury and investment services, management reporting, reconciliation and taxation services, asset accounting, internal control, accounts payable and receivable services
- BS7 Governance - Provision of governance advice and support in the discharge of legislative responsibilities for policy development, delegations and authorisations, internal review of Council decisions, delegations and authorisations, Native Title claims
- BS13 Strategic/Legislative Planning and Reporting - Provision of organisational performance report (outcomes), activity report (outputs), a range of statutory reporting (e.g. public health, tax, superannuation), financial reporting. Transparency and accountability regarding Council activity and expenditure provided

Legislative Requirements

Section 8, 48, 123 of the Local Government Act 1999

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. SERVICE DELIVERY

Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

Outlined in the business case.

2. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

Outlined in the business case.

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

Outlined in the business case.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Outlined in the business case.

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Outlined in the business case.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No consultation has occurred other than will the applicant, Council requested a business case as a matter of urgency. The business case provides recommendations to undertake a engagement process, which should be subject of Council discussion how they wish that to be structured.

7.2 Corporate Services, Strategy and Innovation

7.2.1 MONTHLY FINANCE REPORT AS AT 31 JANUARY 2026 26/14735

MOVED Cr Preece

That Council receives and notes the monthly finance update report as at 31 January 2026, as provided at Attachment 1.

SECONDED Cr de Vries

CARRIED 2022-26/915

PURPOSE

The monthly finance report update as at 31 January 2026 provides information on the financial position and performance of the Council, including notes on material trends and transactions.

REPORT

Background

The monthly finance report as at 31 January 2026 is at Attachment 1. This report has been prepared comparing the year-to-date actuals at the end of the period, to the original adopted 2025-26 budget and updated Q1 budget, as approved at the November 2025 Council meeting.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Monthly Finance Report Council January 2026 

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS6 Finance - Provision of financial and budgetary accounting services, treasury and investment services, management reporting, reconciliation and taxation services, asset accounting, internal control, accounts payable and receivable services

Legislative Requirements

Nil

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. SERVICE DELIVERY

Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

Monthly monitoring of financial performance ensures Council is in a position to ensure budget and expenditure are aligned to meet approved levels of service.

2. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

Nil

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

To enable Council to make effective and strategic decisions, a high-level monthly finance report is provided for Council's noting.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Nil

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community consultation was undertaken as part of the original budget adoption process for 2025-26, as required by the relevant legislation. This report is advising Council of the monthly finance position compared to that budget.

7.2.2 CORPORATE BRAND REFRESH

26/15116

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council endorse officers to progress a corporate brand refresh, in line with a proposed four phase project methodology, with Phase 1 to be completed in 2025/26 within existing budget.

SECONDED Cr Greatwich

CARRIED 2022-26/916

PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement to progress a corporate brand refresh in accordance with a 4-phase methodology with Phase 1 to be completed in 2025/26 within existing budget.

REPORT*Introduction*

Council's corporate brand plays an important role in how we connect with the community and are recognised. Over time, community expectations, accessibility standards and the way Council engages, communicates and delivers its services has evolved.

While the existing brand has served the organisation historically, there is now an opportunity for the brand to evolve to better reflect the maturity and growth of Council, to meet modern accessibility principles, and continue to instil confidence in

the community that Council offers contemporary service delivery whilst maintaining a connection to our local identity.

Discussion

Council's current corporate brand has remained largely unchanged since 1998. Over the last three decades there has been a significant increase in the use of digital communication, the introduction of new accessibility standards (particularly around font style, size and colour) and a generalised shift to simplification of corporate branding for application across multiple mediums.

Within this context, Officers recognise that the existing brand does not fully meet current accessibility standards, particularly in relation to the legibility, digital application and inclusivity.

In addition to challenges around accessibility and application across modern digital communication platforms, there are two other key factors driving consideration of the merits of refreshing and evolving Council's current branding – that being the critical need to contemporise and introduce consistency across public signage and wayfinding for Community spaces and assets (where we see a proliferation of inconsistent, aged and in some instances inaccurate branding); and the pivotal point Council has reached with significant investment in major projects and infrastructure like Barossa Park, Barossa Creative Industries Centre and Concordia, which are reshaping the region's profile and identity.

Now is seen as an opportune time to consider a more cohesive and contemporary approach to Council's corporate identity with the opportunity to align Council's overarching brand with capital projects, public assets and infrastructure to ensure a consistent visual identity and alignment of Council investment in placemaking and visual collateral to protect the credibility and reputation of our region from an amenity and tourist experience point of view.

Finally, whilst consideration is being given to the visual elements of Council's brand, Officers believe there is also merit in exploring the ongoing retention of the use of 'The' in Council's formal name ie The Barossa Council, versus simplification to 'Barossa Council'. If a refresh project is endorsed, part of the concepts presented for Council and community consideration will include analysis of the pros and cons of retaining or divesting 'The' from Council's official name. It should be noted that this change, if adopted, will require a legislative process to facilitate full approval.

Officers have proposed a methodology to undertake a branding refresh with a focus on retaining the essence of the existing logo whilst refining the design to achieve the following objectives:

- Enhance trust and recognition.
- Align with community focused vision and strategic direction.
- Modernise and elevate Council's visual presence.
- Reinforce Council's position as a leader in Local Government and a strong regional partner.
- Continuing to reflect the identity of the Barossa – both past and present.
- Influence Council credibility and confidence in decision making.
- Support investment in and align with placemaking strategies (signage and wayfinding).

A staged methodology has been proposed to facilitate a measured and cost-effective approach to implementing a corporate brand refresh, as follows:

Phase 1 – February – June 2026

- Engagement of external consultant
- Concept development
- Design concept and costing model presented to Council for review and in principle endorsement

Phase 2 – July – December 2026

- Community engagement
- Presentation of preferred brand direction to Council for endorsement

Phase 3 – January – April 2027

- Public consultation (noting mandatory requirement to facilitate formal name change if proposed – ie removal of 'The')
- Final council approval

Phase 4 – 2027-2028

- Phased rollout – Subject to budget approvals

It is proposed that Phase 1 be funded from current provisions within Council's communication and marketing budget, with a commitment of approximately \$25,000 required to complete this piece of work.

Full costings for the phased rollout of a refreshed brand, if approved by Council, will be provided at the conclusion of Phase 1 to inform the ongoing feasibility of implementing phases 2 to 4.

Summary and Conclusion

Council's current brand is increasingly outdated and does not fully meet contemporary accessibility standards or reflect the maturity and growth of the organisation and Council's standing in the community. It is proposed that a corporate brand refresh be facilitated, with a focus on evolving existing brand elements to achieve contemporary standards whilst retaining the essence of the existing logo. Council endorsement is now sought to implement the proposed methodology with the implementation of Phase 1 funded within existing 2025/26 budget.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS3 Communications and Engagement - Management of media, social media, digital communications, branding and strategy, special projects, grants and research, corporate publications, community engagement and events.

Legislative Requirements

The process for the Council to formally change its name is prescribed in Section 13 of the Local Government Act 1999 (Act).

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. SERVICE DELIVERY

Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

Nil

2. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

Nil

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

No additional funding required in 2025/26 with costs to deliver Phase 1 absorbed in existing resourcing and budget. Full costings for phases 2-4 to be provided for Council review and approval at a later date in accordance with standard budget planning and approval requirements.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Nil

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Reputation considerations are contemplated within the body of this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A multi phased engagement and consultation process, to seek feedback from the community, will be undertaken as outlined in the endorsed methodology.

7.2.3 2025-26 QUARTER 2 BUDGET UPDATE - AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025 **26/15220**

MOVED Cr de Vries

That Council, having reviewed the Q2 budget update for 2025-26 (as at 31 December 2025) at Attachment 1, notes the budget update report and approves the budget adjustments.

SECONDED Cr Hurn

CARRIED 2022-26/917

PURPOSE

The quarter 2 (Q2) budget update for 2025-26 (as at 31 December 2025) is attached for Council consideration and adoption of budget adjustments.

REPORT

Background

On a quarterly basis the budgets of Council are reviewed in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1999* and associated regulations.

Budget managers undertake a review of all budget lines and make adjustments where budgets are trending over or under budget and where changes are required for capital programs or new or changed funding conditions. The quarterly budget review process also captures prior decisions of Council involving funding changes so these are reflected in the updated budget forecasts for the year.

All budget adjustments are approved by the relevant member of the Executive team, and then reviewed by the Chief Executive Officer and Manager Financial Services prior to being included in the report at Attachment 1 as a proposed budget adjustment.

Discussion

A detailed list of all proposed Q2 budget adjustments, and updated financial reports to reflect those adjustments, is included at Attachment 1.

Proposed Q2 operating budget adjustments result in Council's consolidated operating deficit reducing by \$97,000 to \$1.530 million, down from \$1.627 million. This is due to a \$1.035 million increase in revenue, largely resulting from an accounting standard disclosure change, offset by a \$938,000 increase in expenses. Refer to page 2 of Attachment 1 for the significant adjustments to the budget contributing to this and pages 6-13 for a detailed summary of all proposed operating budget adjustments.

Proposed Q2 capital budget adjustments result in a decrease of \$743,000 in budgeted capital expenditure, along with a \$1.441 million decrease in budgeted capital revenue, resulting in a net capital adjustment downwards of \$697,000. Refer to pages 2-3 of Attachment 1 for the significant capital adjustments to the budget contributing to this and pages 14-15 for a detailed summary of all proposed capital budget adjustments.

Summary and Conclusion

The Q2 budget update for 2025-26 as at 31 December 2025 has been completed and is ready for Council consideration and approval of budget adjustments.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 2025-26 Quarter 2 (Q2) Budget Update to Council 

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

BS6 Finance - Provision of financial and budgetary accounting services, treasury and investment services, management reporting, reconciliation and taxation services, asset accounting, internal control, accounts payable and receivable services

Legislative Requirements

Section 122 and 123 of the *Local Government Act 1999*

Regulation 9 of the *Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 2011*

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. SERVICE DELIVERY

Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

Detailed quarterly reviews of the annual budget ensure that the budget and expenditure/revenue are aligned to meet approved levels of service.

2. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

Nil

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

Detailed quarterly reviews of the annual budget ensure that the budget and expenditure/revenue are aligned to meet approved levels of service.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

Nil

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community consultation was undertaken as part of the original 2025-26 budget adoption process in June 2025.

7.3 Infrastructure and Environmental Services

Nil

7.4 Development and Community Services

7.4.1 BUILDING INSPECTION POLICIES DISCUSSION PAPER 26/14238

MOVED Cr Preece

That Council endorse the draft response contained in Attachment 1 to the State Planning Commission's discussion paper on the future of Practice Direction 8 and Practice Direction 9 (Building Inspection Policies) under the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*.

SECONDED Cr de Vries

CARRIED 2022-26/918

PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement in respect to a draft response to the State Planning Commission's discussion paper on building inspection policies.

REPORT

Background

An information report was presented to the Ordinary Council Meeting of 16 December 2025 in relation to the Building Inspection Policies Discussion Paper.

The State Planning Commission has released a Discussion Paper on inspection policies as part of its ongoing review of Practice Directions 8 and 9, established pursuant to the *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016*. Responses are invited up until 19th February 2026.

The Department for Housing and Urban Development has written to Council as per the letter contained in Attachment 2, inviting feedback in relation to the Discussion Paper which seeks to inform future updates to the Practice Directions 8 and 9, aimed at improving building safety and aligning with national best practice.

Introduction

The State Planning Commission has provided Councils with questions in relation to mandatory notifications and inspection policies for the purpose of gathering feedback from stakeholders to inform possible changes to Practice Directions 8 (Council Swimming Pool Safety Inspections 2025) and 9 (Council Inspections 2020).

This report seeks Council endorsement in respect to a draft response to the State Planning Commission's discussion paper concerning the future direction of Practice Directions 8 and 9 (Building Inspection Policies).

Discussion

Staff have participated in a workshop hosted by the Department for Housing and Urban Development prior to preparing a draft response to the State Planning Commission. The Department has provided Councils with a number of questions directed at various aspects of building inspections to inform possible changes.

The Discussion Paper on Inspection Policies has been divided into specific topics as follows:

- Topic 1 – CBS Building and Construction Industry Review
- Topic 2 – Jurisdictional comparison
- Topic 3 – Resourcing
- Topic 4 – Mandatory notifications
- Topic 5 – Reliance on other mechanisms to inspect
- Topic 6 – Fees

Other than topic 1, each topic has numerous questions seeking responses. Council's draft response is contained in Attachment 1 and contains a response to each individual question contained in Topics 2 through to 6.

In addition to the individual responses to the questions, the following key issues are considered to be highly pertinent to the matter of the review and are highlighted in page 1 of the Council's draft response:

- Performance Solutions, approved by a Private Certifier could be inspected by the Private Certifier. As Performance Solutions contain non-Deemed to Satisfy solutions to building requirements under the NCC (National Construction Code), they potentially have a larger risk. Interpretation of the private certifiers approval requires more time to assess the documentation prior to inspection.
- Reinspection should be charged to the applicant and counted as statistical data in the Plan SA Portal as actual staff time is utilised to undertake the task.
- The workforce would need to be considerably enlarged if more percentages are to be mandated, e.g. 100 percent of Class 1a (dwelling) along with the already required issuing of the Certificate of Occupancy for Class 1a buildings. All these additional tasks require time of staff and thus constitute extra funding.
- Accredited professionals require Councils to have qualified Building Officer/s or to utilise resources from another Council to invest time and resources in training new Building Officers in the hope they are retained. The real issue is convincing people that Building Surveying is a successful, rewarding career path.
- The role of the Local Government Association (LGA) in advocating for regional areas to:
 - Support both funding/mentoring of individual Councils; and
 - Creating regional pooled services where the Councils don't require a full time officer.
- Ensure Council consistency by reinstating the notifications as per the previous *Development Act 1993*, which incorporated more standardised mandatory notifications rather than the current *Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016* which only stipulates commencing and completion of Building Work.
- Funding increase is required if further percentage increases in inspections are made and to offset costs involved in further training of graduate Building Officers to maintain a level of workforce to cover the inspections.

Summary and Conclusion

The draft response to the State Planning Commission questions on the future direction of Practice Direction 8 and 9 and support's staff's considered opinion in relation to the following key issues concerning the review:

- Resourcing (funding/workforce)
- Standardisation of notifications and inspections
- Role of the Local Government Association in advocating for the sector
- Role of Accredited Professionals in the process

This submission does not mean that all parts of the submission will be adopted but allows for Council's views to be heard.

Following the consultation period, it is anticipated that a 'what we've heard' report will be prepared and circulated to stakeholders prior to any changes being made to the Practice Directions 8 and 9.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Attachment 1 Building Inspection Policies Discussion Paper Response 

Supporting references

Nil.

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Corporate Plan

- CS8 Compliance, Monitoring and Enforcement - Conducting compliance, monitoring and responding to non-compliance associated with planning, building, swimming pool, fire safety, public health and safety
- CS15 Land Use and Development - Assessment of development applications for construction, alteration or demolition of buildings, and the division of land and changes in land use.

Legislative Requirements

Planning, Development and Infrastructure Act 2016

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. SERVICE DELIVERY

Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles and other equipment.

Council has an obligation to undertake inspections of buildings during the construction phase as set out in Practice Directions 8 and 9 and in accordance with Council's Building Inspection Policy to protect public safety and to maintain confidence and integrity in the development control system. The draft response highlights issues for Council in fulfilling its obligations in undertaking building inspections.

2. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

NIL

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

The draft response highlights the funding challenges for councils in meeting inspection targets. Should percentage increases to the inspection targets take place, further funding increases are necessary to offset costs in further training and resourcing to cover the inspections.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

The draft response identifies resourcing challenges in being able to fulfil the obligations imposed upon Councils in meeting mandatory inspections. There is a shortage of qualified and experienced building surveyors in the sector which is a major impediment to achieving the inspection targets.

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

Fulfilling Council's obligations under the Practice Directions 8 and 9 builds trust and confidence in the integrity of the development control system. Changes are considered necessary to the Practice Directions 8 and 9 to achieve sustainability of the inspection regime and to improve performance.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Discussion Paper has been released for consultation by the Department for Housing and Urban Development from 5 December 2025 to 19 February 2026.

7.4.2 LIBRARIES FUNDING - SUPPORT FOR LGA SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ADVOCACY **26/14885**

MOVED Cr Greatwich

That Council:

- (1) Supports LGA South Australia's position to seek annual CPI increases on a new funding agreement with the state government, noting that current state funding for public libraries has not kept pace with rising operational costs and service demands.
- (2) Agrees to support the LGA campaign through Council communication channels.
- (3) Will advise LGA South Australia of its decision so it may collate signatories.

SECONDED Cr Evans

CARRIED 2022-26/919

PURPOSE

To determine if Council wish to support the LGA South Australia's advocacy project requesting increased funding for public libraries.

REPORT

Background

Funding for public libraries has long been an important issue for LGA and its member councils. The current collaboration agreement negotiated with the Libraries Board in 2022 committed the State Government support to \$20.7M each year for four years but omits annual CPI increases.

Annual CPI increases have cost councils around \$11.5M over the term of the agreement.

LGA is seeking to negotiate a new funding agreement directly with the Minister for the Arts. It has not received any commitment from the Minister that the State Government will include CPI in a new agreement or that funding will be increased. LGA is maintaining a strong sector position to advocate for increased funding in the leadup to the state election.

LGA's position in its [2026 State Election Priorities](#) is for the State Government to: 'Increase funding for public libraries with annual indexation restored to reflect rising costs, increased services and public demand'.

Introduction

LGA South Australia has been leading an advocacy campaign to elevate the role and value of public libraries, with a focus on strengthening community awareness and understanding of how libraries support people and communities in ways that extend well beyond borrowing books.

LGA's 'How Good Are Libraries' campaign was launched in May 2025 to build broader community awareness of the value of public libraries and highlight the need for a sustainable funding model that supports the range of services libraries provide. This builds on earlier campaigns from 2022 – Libraries are the Heart of Our Community.

In the lead-up to the 2026 State Election, LGA has commenced the next phase of this work through its 'Too Good To Lose' campaign, which seeks to maintain momentum, share community stories about library use, and underline the importance of a renewed State-Local Government funding agreement that includes annual CPI indexation. It now seeks support for this campaign from Council.

Discussion

The LGA is seeking:

- direct negotiation for a new funding arrangement with the Minister for the Arts
- to reach a new funding agreement and ensure a collaborative approach to the libraries network
- a funding agreement with an annual CPI increase to ensure library services can continue to meet community demand and the needs of all South Australians.

LGA presented to the PLSA Public Libraries SA (PLSA) (library managers network, of which Manager, Community Experience is an executive committee member) on 24 November seeking library manager support to promote the LGA campaign and to help prepare short videos of customer stories about the value of libraries.

Summary and Conclusion

The Barossa Public Library makes a valuable contribution to the Barossa community. Customer survey data indicates 90% of responders agree that they have a positive experience at Barossa Library, 94% agree they are satisfied with the services the library offers, and 94% agree that they usually receive good customer service at the library.

In 2025 just over one in four Barossa residents were active library members. The four library branches welcomed a combined 99,400 visits, and members borrowed 13,600 items per month (or approximately 163 000 for the year). The library team delivered or facilitated 453 programs that were attended by 8708 people; including several new community initiated social connection groups and youth engagement projects.

Provision of the full scope of these valuable community services relies on the continuation of State Government funding that keeps pace with annual indexation, rising costs and demand for services. Hence the recommendation that Council support and participate in the LGA 'Too Good To Lose' campaign. This includes sharing community stories about local library use and LGA supplied collateral through Council's communication channels.

ATTACHMENTS OR OTHER SUPPORTING REFERENCES

Nil

Supporting references

Nil

COMMUNITY PLAN / CORPORATE PLAN / LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Community Plan



Creating a safe and connected community where people have access to sustainable services and service levels and infrastructure they need and feel a sense of belonging.

Strategic Outcome

- Our community is welcoming, vibrant and safe.



Our places and spaces enhance the liveability, retain rural and regional character and diversity of our communities.

Strategic Outcome

- Our places are planned, managed, and sustainable.
- We plan for and deliver infrastructure to enhance our places.

Corporate Plan

CS16 Library - Provision of public library services across multiple physical branches, online and via outreach programs. This includes providing access to a physical and online collection

Legislative Requirements

Libraries Act 1982

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

These statements are qualitative in nature and designed to provide an indication of Council's general position when deciding to take or retain risk in pursuit of its objectives.

1. SERVICE DELIVERY

Refers to the delivery of services to the community, which includes the systems and physical assets that enable provision of these services, including structures (such as roads, buildings and facilities) as well as IT infrastructure, plant, vehicles & other equipment.

The recommendations pose no risk to Service Delivery.

2. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT

Relates to measures to preserve, protect and minimise impact on the natural environment, including sacred and indigenous lands, flora, fauna, heritage, water, waste, hazardous materials and pollution.

The recommendations pose no risk to Sustainability and Environment.

3. FINANCIAL

Refers to planning and control of Council's budget to align with the sustainable achievement of the desired outcomes articulated in its Community Plan.

The recommendations pose no financial risk as are cost neutral.

4. PEOPLE

Relates to recruitment, retention, wellbeing and safety of employees and volunteers and engagement and management of contractors as well as the wellbeing and safety of the community.

The recommendations pose no risk to people.

5. REPUTATION

Relates to policy, decisions, actions and circumstances that may cause Council to lose credibility with the community, ratepayers, key stakeholders, other levels of government and its own employees and contractors.

The recommendations pose no risk to Council's reputation.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Not required.

8. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

Nil

9. URGENT OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

10. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 17 March 2026 at 5:30pm

11. CLOSURE

Mayor Lange declared the meeting closed at 5.57pm.

Confirmed at Council Meeting on 17 March 2026

Date:.....

Mayor:.....